

FRIEND TO NEWSPAPER MEN.

Quite a Number Who Can Boast of Personal Favors from King Edward.

No monarch, according to London "M. A. P.," has shown a warmer appreciation of newspaper power and newspaper men than King Edward. There are quite a number of the latter who can boast of his personal friendship, and are able to show trinkets which he has given them as souvenirs. Several, indeed, belong to his immediate circle, notable Sir "Billy" Russell, the veteran war correspondent of the Times, who was once attached to his suite as honorary private secretary, and has still, I believe, the right to wear the household button when in court dress. King Edward, until the time of his accession to the throne, was in the habit of paying an annual visit to Sir Edward Lawson, the editor and proprietor of the London Daily Telegraph, as a sort of recognition for the support which that paper had given to his own and Queen Alexandra's charitable enterprises. At least two dozen newspaper editors were knighted by Queen Victoria at the suggestion of the king, several newspaper proprietors have received baronetcies, and one, Lord Glenesk, has received a peerage.

WITNESS' CLEVER REPLY.

Retort Courteous of the Same to Bailiff Upsets the Dignity of a Row of Judges.

Recently, during the hearing of a charge of felony, a young man was called to give evidence on behalf of accused, and was about to be sworn, when the inspector informed their lordships that the witness had disobeyed the order for witnesses to leave the court.

The bench were almost inclined to refuse his evidence in consequence, but the witness, in the most innocent manner, caused a burst of laughter which even the dignity of a whole row of judges was not proof against, and the position was saved.

The inspector, addressing the bench, said: "In order that there should be no mistake, I distinctly said: 'All witnesses on both sides must leave the court until they are called,' and then, turning to the witness, he said: 'You must have heard the order.'"

"Yes," at once responded the witness, according to the Detroit News-Tribune, "I did; but I am not a witness on both sides!"

Women Railroaders.

There are now in the United States 15 feminine locomotive engineers and firemen and seven female conductors. Add to these 31 brakemen—or, to be correct, brakewomen—ten baggage women.

Family History.

"She has such a taking way, don't you think?"

"Yes. She inherited it, I think. Her mother was a kleptomaniac."—Chicago Record-Herald.

A Conclusive Objection.

"Poverty is no disgrace," said the young woman with ideas of her own.

"No," said Mrs. Cumrox; "it's no disgrace. But it certainly is extremely unfashionable."—Washington Star.

Paradoxical.

Sniffles—What did your wife say when you got in so late last night?

Biffles—She said she was speechless, but talked nevertheless for an hour.—Los Angeles Herald.

Easy Derivation.

"Notice that the derivation of boisterous is obscure."

"Secure? Why, that's easy. Boys, of course."—N. Y. Times.

TAKEN AS AN OMEN.

When the Hangman's Rope Broke All His Neighbors Said Purdy Was Innocent.

"Although I never saw but one hanging, I witnessed a sight that even professional hangmen have not seen," said A. A. Albrecht, of Columbus, Miss., to a Denver Post reporter. "It was at my home. A young Mississippian named Purdy had been convicted of murder in the first degree and sentenced to hang. The evidence was wholly circumstantial, and before he was accused of that crime the young man had borne an excellent reputation. He was also connected by marriage with some of the best people in the state.

"Nevertheless, he was sentenced to hang and the governor would not re-



SHERIFF PULLED A LEVER.

prieve him. There were two factions in the community, one believing him guilty, and the other considering him innocent. The latter talked of rescue but it was all talk.

"The scaffold was not inclosed and when young Purdy ascended the gallows he walked erect and fearless. He denied his guilt, and all who saw him were compelled to admit his bearing was that of an innocent man. The black cap was pulled over his face, the sheriff pulled a lever, and the next we saw was a man getting up from the ground, snatching the black cap from his head and declaring dramatically: 'God has proved my innocence.'

"The rope had broken. That was enough. Former enemies turned into adherents, and before the sheriff could again take his prisoner to the gallows and get another rope he was in the center of a crowd of thousands of people, all of whom were swearing there were not sheriffs enough in Mississippi to hang an innocent man.

"Purdy was taken home, and an escort of 250 armed and determined men went with him and remained until there was no danger of any further proceedings being taken. Without any legal formalities the matter was allowed to drop, and Purdy is living 18 miles from Columbia, respected and happy.

"Joy almost killed his wife when she saw him alive at the time she expected his corpse to be brought home. To say Purdy is guilty is now almost as much as a man's life is worth down there."

Nothing Wonderful.

"Yes, sir," he explained, after his visit to the dime museum, "the armless wonder actually plays poker with his feet."

"That's nothing," was the reply. "My girl's father 'raised' me with just one foot last evening."—Chicago Post.

We've All Met Him.

Among the folks we always shun
The most confounded bore is
The man who tells year after year
The same old pointless stories.

The Grand Fountain of the United Order of True Reformers

Is the leading Colored Fraternal Society of the United States. It was organized January, 1881, by William W. Browne, and chartered in April, 1883, under the laws of the State of Virginia, with headquarters at Richmond, Va. Its membership is both male and female, and consists of all persons of good health from 14 to 60 years of age. Its membership of 60,000 is divided into Fountains and Circles. It pays sick benefits from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, and pays death benefits from \$24.50 to \$1000.

BENEFITS PAID—Total benefits paid to date: Sick dues, \$1,500,000; death benefits, \$714,378.75.

SENIOR FOUNTAINS—A Fountain may be organized consisting of 20 or more persons not over 50 years of age paying a joining fee of from \$4.60 to \$5.10 each. The monthly dues are not less than 35 cents in rural districts and not less than 50 cents per month in towns and cities, and a semi-annual tax of 40 cents paid in January and July of each year. Sick benefits paid are from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per week, while death benefits range from \$75 to \$125. A Fountain may be organized in any locality on application to Rev. W. L. Taylor, G. W. Master, or to any of his authorized deputies.

ROSEBUDS—For the proper training of the young at their development in thrift, industry and brotherly love, there has been formed a Children's Department known as the Rosebuds. Twenty or more children not less than three nor more than fourteen years of age may form a Rosebud, upon the payment of \$1 each. This department, like the Senior Fountain, pays sick benefits from \$1 to twenty-five cents per week, and death benefits from \$24.50 to \$37. The monthly dues are fifteen cents per month.

CLASSES—Persons desiring to leave their beneficiaries at death a larger amount than is paid from Fountain Department, take out policies in one or more of the Classes of the Mutual Benefit Degree. The members of this degree are divided into Circles, and pay joining fees and dues according to the following tables:

Class "B"					Class "E"				
Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.	Annual Dues	Quarterly Dues	Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate after one year.	Value of Certificate before one year.
14 to 25	\$2.50	\$200.00	\$100.00	\$4.75	\$1.20	14 to 25	\$5.00	\$500.00	\$250.00
25 to 30	2.75	200.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	25 to 30	5.25	500.00	250.00
30 to 35	3.00	200.00	100.00	4.75	1.20	30 to 35	5.50	500.00	250.00
35 to 40	3.25	200.00	100.00	5.70	1.43	35 to 40	5.75	500.00	250.00
40 to 45	3.50	140.00	70.00	5.79	1.43	40 to 45	6.00	450.00	225.00
45 to 50	3.75	115.00	58.00	6.65	1.66	45 to 50	6.25	400.00	200.00
50 to 55	4.00	70.00	45.00	6.35	1.66	50 to 55	6.50	350.00	175.00
55 to 60	4.25	65.00	33.00	7.60	1.90	55 to 60	6.75	300.00	150.00

Class "M"

Age	Joining fee.	Value of Certificate	Annual dues	Quarterly dues
14 to 30	\$11.00	\$1000.00	\$21.90	\$5.25
30 to 35	12.00	1000.00	22.00	5.50
35 to 40	12.00	900.00	23.00	5.75
40 to 45	13.00	800.00	24.00	6.00
45 to 50	13.00	700.00	25.00	6.25

REGALIA—The members of the Fountains and Rosebuds of the organization wear no expensive regalia. The regalia of the organization is simple and its cost will be in the easy reach of all, costing from 10 cents to \$3. The same is made by the organization in what is known as the Regalia Department.

THE SAVINGS BANK—In March, 1888, there was granted by the Legislature of Virginia a charter to the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers, capital stock \$100,000.

The bank commenced business April 3, 1889, and from that time down to the present has steadily increased in volume of business. It now has a paid-up capital stock of \$100,000. From the humble sum of \$1,268.69, deposited the first day the bank opened for business in 1889 the deposits have grown to \$350,000, and the volume of business transacted amounts to \$6,190,141.47. During the financial panic of 1893, the Savings Bank of the Grand Fountain was the only bank in the city of Richmond that did not cease to pay cash on all checks presented, while the majority of other banks were using script and clearing house checks. This bank had its origin in the brain of William W. Browne, an ex-slave of Hagerstown, Ga. The banking house is located at 604 North Second Street, Richmond, Va., Rev. W. L. Taylor, President; R. T. Hill, Cashier.

REAL ESTATE DEPARTMENT—The Real Estate Department has charge of all the real property to the amount of \$220,221.65, situated in various States, consisting of 13 magnificent buildings used as halls, 8 dwellings, 1 hotel, 5 stores and three farms. It also has under its control 16 large buildings leased by it. This department is under the management of Lawyer J. C. Robertson, chief of real estate and attorney for the association, office at 608 N. 2nd Street, Richmond, Va.

REFORMERS MERCANTILE AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION—Was chartered under the laws of the State of Virginia on the 14th day of December, 1899, with principal office in the city of Richmond, Va. The purpose of this association is to conduct stores (wholesale and retail), buy and sell real property, manage and control hotels, manufacturing establishments, and do general business. The association has in operation Hotel Reformer, 900 N. Sixth Street, Richmond, Va. It is a modern up-to-date structure, heated by steam, cold and hot water baths, also electric cars passing the door. This hotel has accommodations for 150 guests. Mr. A. W. Holmes is manager, and Mr. T. W. Taylor is clerk. It has in operation a system of five stores, located as follows: Richmond, Va.; Washington, D. C.; Manchester, Va.; Portsmouth, Va.; and Roanoke, Va. The first of these stores, at Richmond, Va., was opened April 30, 1900. It employs a force of 18 men, runs three delivery wagons, and during the first year did \$50,000 worth of business. The other stores have been established since, and have been equally as prosperous. The general manager of the system of stores is Mr. B. L. Jordan, headquarters at 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. This Association was formed on the plans and recommendations made by Rev. W. L. Taylor, its President.

THE REFORMER PRINTING DEPARTMENT—Issues a weekly journal, THE REFORMER, which has a circulation of 12,000. This paper is published in the interest of the race, and discusses the leading questions of the day. The subscription price is \$1 per year, or 5c. per single copy. The office is equipped with modern up-to-date machinery, run by electricity. It can print any job from a visiting card to a poster 42 by 62 inches. Fine job work of every class and description is made a specialty at lowest prices. Mr. E. W. Brown is editor and business manager, office 608 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va. Correspondence solicited and agents wanted.

OLD FOLKS' HOME—In September, 1893, Rev. William W. Browne recommended the formation and establishment of Old Folks' Homes for the benefit of old and decrepit members of the race. Since that time the valuable farm known as Westham, consisting of 644 acres, located six miles from Richmond, Va., on the historic "James," has been purchased, at a cost of \$14,400. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad runs through the farm, and Westham Station is located on it. Adjoining this farm is Westham Park, one of the most pleasant resorts in the South in summer. It is reached in a few minutes from Richmond by the Westham Electric Railway and the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway. As this home is for the benefit of the whole race, the cooperation of all charitable friends is prayerfully solicited. All contributions, donations and bequests of every character will be very thankfully received. Mr. T. W. Taylor is chief in charge of the Old Folks' Home, offices at 608 North Second Street, Richmond, Va. For further information address—

Rev. W. L. Taylor, G. W. M.

W. P. Burrell, G. W. S.

604-6-8 N. Second Street, Richmond, Va.